IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re patent application of: Chrobak et al.

Serial No.: 09/849,854

Group Art Unit: 1733

Filed: May 4, 2001

Examiner: A. C. Johnstone

For: ANISOTROPIC HOMOGENEOUS

Docket No.: 6700-1

ELASTOMERIC CLOSED TORUS TIRE DESIGN & METHOD OF

MANUFACTURE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND ELECTION

Assistant Commissioner For Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

1_01/29/2003 KBUTLER_00000003 150450

-01 FC:2201 42.00 CH -02 FC:2202 27.00 CH

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 3, paragraph [0007], replace with the following paragraph:

The other spectrum represents the type of materials used in the fabrication. At one extreme, the materials used to construct the tire are solid and remain in the solid state throughout the fabrication, such as in typical pneumatic tires. Alternatively, the tire is formed from solid and liquid materials or purely from liquid materials, which are solidified during processing. Examples of solid and liquid phase processing are shown in of U.S. Patent Nos. 5,254,405 and European Patent No. 0 374 081 A2 (equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 4,936,365. Although various alternative strategies have been attempted to provide desired tire characteristics, no tire design heretofore has provided the desired characteristics in a simple and cost-effective configuration.

Page 6, paragraph [0013], replace with the following paragraph:

The sidewalls 16 are notably distinct from known tire sidewalls because the external face 24 has a concave sculpted curvature and the internal sidewall face 20 is